

tion. But now comes the sequel. Having developed a certain market in the medical profession, and having secured a certain quasi-medical endorsement, the scheming proprietors, the Alpers Chemical Co., throw off the mantle of decency, and come before the public. In the last issue of one of the lay magazines (Ainslee's), appears the following advertisement:

"Physicians prescribe Triacol (Alpers). Triacol (Alpers) has been accepted by physicians as the most perfect combination of certain approved remedial agents for the treatment and cure of diseases of the organs of respiration. Coughs, bronchitis, bronchial asthma, and other diseases of the respiratory organs promptly yield to the action of this scientific preparation. Triacol (Alpers) is not a patent medicine. It is a strictly ethical preparation, extensively and successfully used in hospitals and in private medical practice. Interesting booklet sent on request, telling what triacol (Alpers) has done and is doing to cure coughs, bronchitis, etc. Thousands of physicians approve triacol and praise it. At all department stores and druggists. Price \$1.00, express prepaid."

Now is not that nice. And Mr. Alpers stood for years as a leader in scientific pharmacy and his voice was listened to with respect in the deliberations of the American Pharmaceutical Association. Is it to laugh or to weep?

Tuesday, April 17th, Dr. McKee, of Sacramento, senator from that district, addressed the delegates on the subject of **DISTRICT COMMITTEES** medical and health legislation. (See JOURNAL, June, page 176.) We may venture to recall the fact that Dr. McKee suggested the wisdom of forming senatorial district committees of two or three members in each senatorial district, which committees should act with the Committee on Public Policy and Legislation of the State Society. He dwelt upon the never ending attacks upon the law regulating the practice of medicine, which attacks are always supported by those with questionable motives within the profession, and from without, by incompetent quacks who cannot secure legal right to prey upon the sick and injured. The suggestion was placed before the President and he authorized the appointment of such committees and instructed the Secretary to take the matter up with the component societies and ask for recommendations for nominees for such committees. It seems probable that these senatorial district committees will have considerable work to do, for there is always much foolish legislation dealing with health matters presented at every session of the legislature. More work can be done in setting these questions right in the minds of our Solons by influential physicians who are known to the legislators, or known to influential constituents, than by rank outsiders; this is the reason for the committees. As yet not

all county societies\* have been heard from in reply to the request for nominations, and it is to be hoped that those which have not yet sent in their nominations, will quickly do so. Time is passing and before we know it the first of the year will be upon us. Let us be sure that we have this machinery in good working order before the legislature meets, and if possible, before election day.

## THE SYSTEMATIC TREATMENT OF CHRONIC URETHRITIS AS CONDUCTED IN THE GENITO-URINARY CLINIC AT COOPER MEDICAL COLLEGE. A PRELIMINARY REPORT.\*

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Chronic urethritis is the bug-bear pre-eminent of the genito-urinary specialist, not because of the great number of such cases he is confronted with, but of the varying disappointing results, in so many cases, notwithstanding that the treatment may be most intelligent and carried out on true scientific lines. No wonder that he cannot disbelieve the saying recorded to Record, that wherever he goes after death, be it above or below, he is quite positive that many will be the men who will come to him saying, "Doctor, I still have that morning drop."

Urethritis and remedies galore, such as antiseptics, astringents, pressure, packing, passing of sounds, soluble bougies, electricity, etc., with no definite results, have led to the pursuance of a policy suggested by Dr. Rigdon, that the genito-urinary clinic carry on without intermittance a systematic trial to prove the virtue or efficiency of some of the most important methods suggested for the cure of chronic urethritis. It was the intention, and is still carried out in the clinic, that each method shall be given a thorough and impartial trial, limited to no other time than that in which its efficacy proves valueless. At this stage only, do we signal for a change in either abolishing same altogether, or to the treatment add some other method and so continuing, only making a change when indications again point to no improvement, and thus do we add or abolish only when the remedies are not producing the results looked for. For manganate of potassium solutions, known as the example, we may begin with irrigations of the per-Janet method; or irrigations and instillations of bichloride known as the Guyon method. This Guyon method is said to do well in those cases that have resisted the silver, or irrigations of silver, known as the Neisser method.

With any of the treatments the patient is told, and it is impressed upon him, to avoid excessive exercise such as horseback or bicycle riding, avoid alcoholics, sexual intercourse; take care of the general health. But still, it is the local treatment that we look to and expect to effect a cure, as a knowledge of the pathology will indicate.

It is generally accepted that if an acute attack

\*Read before the Cooper College Science Club.